



**Committee:** Directly to Council  
**Committee Review:** N/A  
**Staff:** Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst  
**Purpose:** Receive briefing and have discussion – no vote expected  
**Keywords:** Coronavirus, COVID-19

AGENDA ITEM #5  
June 23, 2020  
**Discussion**

## SUBJECT

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update (County Council sitting as the Board of Health)

## EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Dr. Travis Gayles, County Health Officer and Chief of DHHS Public Health Services  
Dr. Earl Stoddard, Director, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security  
Dr. Raymond Crowel, Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

## COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- Council sitting as Board of Health to receive updates.

## DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Council will receive an update on the public health data and emergency response to the COVID-19 public emergency from Dr. Gayles and Dr. Stoddard.

The following is data from the Maryland.gov website on June 21, 2020:

	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	21-Jun	June 20-21
<b>STATEWIDE DATA</b>								
Confirmed Positive Cases	32,032	62,409	62,969	63,229	63,583	63,956	64,306	350
Total Confirmed Deaths	2,817	2,851	2,866	2,886	2,901	2,923	2,937	14
Probable Deaths	130	131	130	130	129	129	129	-

	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun	21-Jun	June 20-21
<b>COUNTY DATA</b>								
Confirmed Positive Cases	13,657	13,709	13,819	13,862	13,928	14,004	14,079	75
Total Confirmed Deaths	655	658	664	667	670	674	680	6
Probable Deaths	39	40	40	40	40	40	40	-

The following data is from the Montgomery County website as of June 19, 2020:

June 19 2020						
CASES MoCo	Male	Male	Female	Female	Total	Total
Age Group	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
0-17	462	371.3	435	365.0	897	368.2
18-49	3,567	1,676.2	3,571	1,613.2	7,138	1,644.1
50-64	1,607	1,611.7	1,509	1,361.3	3,116	1,479.9
65+	1,217	1,859.3	1,591	1,842.4	2,808	1,849.7
TOTAL	6,853	1,364.1	7,106	1,321.4	13,959	1,342.0

DEATHS MoCo	Male	Male	Female	Female	Total	Total
Age Group	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
0-17	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
18-49	24	11.3	9	4.1	33	7.6
50-64	65	65.2	17	15.3	82	38.9
65+	268	409.4	287	332.4	555	365.6
TOTAL	357	71.1	313	58.2	670	64.4

MoCo Deaths	Count	Rate
White (NH)	315	69.8
Black (NH)	156	81.1
Asian (NH)	62	38.5
Hispanic	116	56.0
Other	21	NA
TOTAL	670	64.4

### Montgomery County Metrics

Montgomery County has adopted the following metrics that will be used to determine when it is safe to move to different phases of reopening businesses and other activities.

1. A sustained decrease of new cases during a 14-day period in an environment of increased testing.
2. A sustained decrease in the number of COVID-19 related daily deaths.
3. A sustained decrease in the COVID-19 related hospitalizations.
4. A sustained decrease in COVID-19 related ICU hospitalizations.
5. A sustained decrease in the number of COVID-19 related patients going to County emergency rooms.
6. A sustained daily acute care bed utilization rate of 70% or less of total acute care bed space.
7. A sustained daily Intensive Care Unit (ICU) bed utilization rate of 80% or less of ICU bed space.

8. A sustained daily rate of 70% or less of critical care equipment, such as ventilators.
9. A sustained flattening or decrease in test positivity.
10. An increased testing capacity to be able to test 5% of residents on a monthly basis.

Except for achieving declining new deaths (met 13 of 14 days), the County has met these metrics for 14 of 14 days using a 3-day rolling average.

**In addition, the County has stated the following as additional goals that should be achieved:**

- Testing networks in place to offer high throughput testing.
- Leverage health care network to provide testing to symptomatic and asymptomatic patients.
- Accessible testing options available across the County utilizing a diverse network of options, including health care providers, alternative test sites, mobile testing units, etc.
- Sustained flattening or decrease in test positivity.
- Continuing current efforts and partnering with the State on a state-driven, large-scale contact tracing effort that will allow for contacting cases within 24 hours upon receipt of results and identified contacts within 48 hours.
- Compiling and using data by race, gender, age, geographic location to inform policy decisions related to health outcomes.
- Ability to disseminate information, programming, and policies that address the impact of social determinants of health on Covid-19 outcomes.

#### **COVID-19 Background (from Maryland.gov)**

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. COVID-19 is a new virus that hasn't caused illness in humans before. Worldwide, COVID-19 has resulted in thousands of infections, causing illness and in some cases death. Cases have spread to countries throughout the world, with more cases reported daily.

#### **COVID-19 is thought to be able to spread like the cold or flu through:**

Coughing and sneezing, which creates respiratory droplets

Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands

Touching an object or surface with the virus on it

#### **Symptoms of COVID-19 include:**

Fever

Coughing

Shortness of breath; in more severe cases, pneumonia (infection in the lungs)

Link to County Website:

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus.html>

## **SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS**

- The Board of Health is continuing its regular briefings.

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